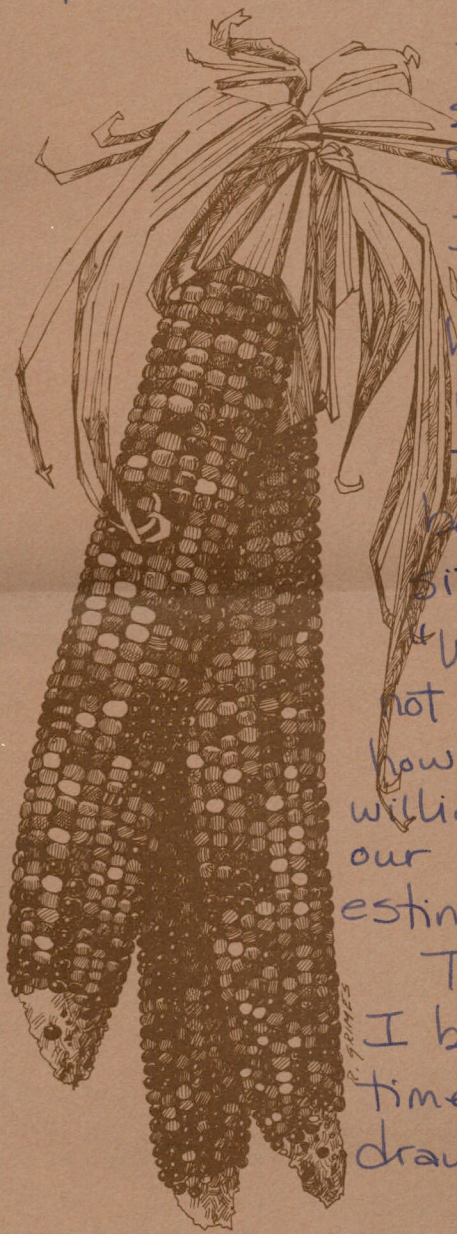
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Dear Daniel Ellsburg,

I was very moved by your interview in Rolling Stone, especially concerning the immaturity of the Anti-War Movement. I am now doing research to substantiate that "greeness" of the Movement and, the reasons behind their anti-intellectuality.

At the time of the Cambodian bombings I was a university student. The uselessness in attempting to change the political situation in this country was a feeling typical of that time. Had I done my "homework" though, I would not have been disillusioned by the fact that Nixon totally ignored the march in Washington.



Nixon never listened from the beginning. As he said in May of '61, six months after he lost the election, "What will count in the long run is not how popular our policies are, but how right they are. We must be willing to commit enough power to obtain our objective even if all our intelligence estimates prove wrong."

The threat of a military take-over I believe, is very possible at this time. The Executive office has drawn a curtain to exclude it's

activities from Congress, the press, and the people.

The Pentagon Papers blew the curtain back for a minute and their game was temporarily exposed. But unfortunately, the tendency of the Executive offices to coverup their gross sins by refusing to testify inhibits investigations of the Congressional Committees.

John Connolly was concerned that an erosion of individual participation in a democratic government might lead to a dictatorship - if it had the help of the armed forces. Now that the military has established unprecedented size and unlimited power, that help may be right around the corner.

The military is shown to carry the weight of the economic life in America, and right now that life is weakened. Under the stresses and strains of federal paternalism, corrupt politics, high crime, low morality and high taxes, the way could be being paved for a military take-over.

Living in a town that houses both an Air Force and an Army base, I am all too accustomed to seeing soldiers wherever I go and listening to their explosives mar many a peaceful evening. The military has stripped this town of culture, unless one considers pawn shops, drive-ins and topless bars cultural. I would hate to imagine what it would strip this country of in the event it came under it's jurisdiction.

If your wife Patricia, could tolerate one more book in the house, I know you would enjoy reading, "Washington Cover-up: How Bureaucratic Secrecy Promotes Corruption and Waste in the Federal Government" by R. Mollenhoff (Doubleday). Since this book was written in 1962, it is unfortunately, after-the-fact. Nevertheless, it provides a foundation for the sins of silence.

I sincerely thank you for taking the responsibility and the initiative for exposing the Pentagon Papers. I share with you, disappointment in that the Movement's response and involvement was low. Hopefully, these recent years will give us the maturity and intellectuality to respond to initiative in the future.



I would appreciate your thoughts on the chances of a military take-over. In my research, I am trying to establish those possibilities to get a feeling where we may be headed, next. I do not want to be surprised nor saddened to wake up in 1984. If we understand where we are today, that chance might not exist.

With sincere regards,

Jan Nordseth
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